IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (currently amended) A~~An~~ polypeptide ~~enzyme~~ isolated from a microorganism,

wherein said polypeptide has ~~having~~ an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to thereby release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit,

wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,

wherein said polypeptide ~~enzyme~~ has an ~~substantial~~ activity ~~even~~ at ~~a~~ pH 2.5 to 3, ~~or less and~~

wherein said polypeptide is stable at 50°C or less, and

wherein the microorganism is selected from the genus *Aspergillus*, the genus *Penicillium*, the genus *Rhizopus*, the genus *Rhizomucor*, the genus *Talaromyces*, the genus *Mortierella*, the genus *Cryptococcus*, the genus *Microbacterium*, the genus *Corynebacterium* and the genus *Actinoplanes*.

2. (currently amended) The polypeptide ~~enzyme~~ according to claim 1, wherein said disaccharide glycoside is selected from the group consisting of β-primeveroside, a rutinose glycoside, a gentiobiose glycoside, an arabinofuranosyl glycoside and an aviofuranosyl glycoside ~~and/or an analogous disaccharide glycoside~~.

3. (currently amended) A variant of a polypeptide isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the Sequence Listing,

wherein said variant comprises an amino acid sequence having one or more amino acid residues ~~of the amino acid sequence are~~ modified by at least one of deletion, addition, insertion and substitution,

wherein said variant has at least 50% homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, ~~and~~

wherein said variant has ~~also having~~ an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit,

wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,

wherein said polypeptide has activity at pH 2.5 to 3, and

wherein said polypeptide is stable at 50°C or less.

4. (previously amended) A polypeptide isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the Sequence Listing.

5-10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended) A method for producing a polypeptide ~~an enzyme~~ having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit, wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,

said method comprising ~~which comprises~~ culturing a microorganism in a nutrient medium to effect production of the polypeptide~~enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit~~, and ~~subsequently~~ collecting said polypeptide ~~enzyme~~ from the resulting culture mixture,

wherein said polypeptide ~~enzyme~~ has ~~a substantial~~ activity ~~even~~ at pH 2.5 to 3, ~~or less and~~ wherein said polypeptide is stable at 50°C or less, and

wherein the microorganism is selected from the genus *Aspergillus*, the genus *Penicillium*, the genus *Rhizopus*, the genus *Rhizomucor*, the genus *Talaromyces*, the genus *Mortierella*, the genus *Cryptococcus*, the genus *Microbacterium*, the genus *Corynebacterium* and the genus *Actinoplanes*.

12. (canceled).

13. (currently amended) The method for producing a polypeptide ~~an enzyme~~ having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit according to claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the polypeptide ~~enzyme~~ is inducible by addition of a saccharide to the nutrient medium.

14. (currently amended) The method for producing a polypeptide ~~an enzyme~~ according to claim 13, wherein the saccharide is selected from the group consisting of gentose, gentiobiose, and gentio-oligosaccharide.

15-21. (canceled).

22. (new) An isolated polypeptide represented by amino acids 1-466 of SEQ ID NO:8.